



**Your Guide to Isle Royale National Park**  
*www.nps.gov/isro*

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# Wonderland

*I thought it was a special island. A magic island...  
I thought it was my own magic island.*

Young Anna Bowen, daughter of the assistant lighthouse keeper, spent her summers exploring the forests and shorelines of Passage Island. Her passion for exploration caused her mother endless apprehension: a wild island was no place for children. Anna did not agree. Neither did her father, who encouraged her to “stop and look” at all the wonders around her.

On a trip to Passage Island we walk in Anna’s footsteps and enter her “enchanted forest.” We encounter impenetrable thickets of Devil’s Club, aptly named for its armor of wicked spines. Common on northeastern Isle Royale, these plants flourish a thousand miles from their native range in the Pacific Northwest.

As we emerge from the dark woods, the rocky shoreline seems barren. A closer look into the cracks of the lichen-spattered rocks reveals an extraordinary diversity of life...and of rarity. The cooling influence of Lake Superior allows species usually found much farther north to thrive here. In protected crevices, arctic plants with fairytale names like knotted pearlwort and pale paintbrush find refuge. Boreal chorus frogs and over two hundred insect species inhabit splashpools in depressions fed by snowmelt, rainfall, and wave wash.

We climb to the high cliff tops on a magical morning and see young peregrine falcons making their first flight. Still endangered in Michigan, peregrines returned to Passage Island in 2012 and since then a pair has raised fourteen chicks from their nest on the precipice, two-hundred feet above the crashing waves.

Elsewhere on Isle Royale, lichens in myriad sizes and forms drape branches in a robe of unmatched diversity. The haunting calls of loons echo on inland lakes that are home to enormous populations of freshwater mussels. Merlins patrol open ridge tops with powerful wingbeats, while a thousand tiny blue-eyed Mary blossoms wink upwards. Rarity and beauty surround you.

In one of his many editorials calling for protection of Isle Royale, journalist Albert Stoll lyrically referred to this archipelago as “The Wonderland of the North.” Eighty years have passed since Anna adventured here, but Stoll’s description is as compelling today. Away from hectic schedules, we wander in wonder across the length and breadth of Isle Royale National Park, free to follow the advice that Vern Bowen gave his daughter:

*Always look for the beauty. See the colors. Find the beauty.*

## Welcome to Isle Royale National Park

Each trip to Isle Royale is distinctive, defined in part by the external landscape: the weather, seasons, and sights along the way are integral parts of the experience. But each trip is also intensely personal: a rush of adrenaline as a magnificent bull moose appears from the brush, a thrill of wonder as the aurora pulses in the dark velvet sky, a calm that settles deep inside us. . . a sense that we belong to this place.

As a national park, this place also belongs to us. Protecting the wonders found within its boundaries is an ongoing challenge, and your voice continues to be important in park decision-making.

The Cultural Resources Management Plan and the Wilderness Stewardship Plan are currently in progress. Drafts of these plans will be available online (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/isro>) for public review and comment later this year.



I invite you to make the journey to Isle Royale, to explore its countless wonders, and refresh yourself amidst its quiet beauty.

Phyllis Green, Superintendent

Printing of  
The Greenstone  
courtesy of the  
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Keweenaw Parks  
Association



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# Rare Beauty

In a memo to Congress in 1931, Horace Albright, the director of the National Park Service, advocated for the preservation of this archipelago, writing. . . *From these pathways, unending and everchanging scenes of marvelous beauty would be unfolded, without disturbing the wilderness character of the area.* Look through the lens of park researchers to discover some of the rare beauties protected within this wilderness park.

## Surviving on the Shoreline

One of the most photogenic rare plant beauties found on the Lake Superior rocky shorelines of Isle Royale is Prickly Saxifrage. Also called three-toothed saxifrage, its clusters of flowers with their red-dotted petals are simply exquisite. It’s well worth kneeling down to get a closer look at this tiny work of art. The flower clusters appear from late May to early July and are displayed on stalks above mats of leathery three-pointed, quite prickly leaves, hence the common names.

While over sixty rare plant species occur on Isle Royale, Prickly Saxifrage and about twenty other island species, including other bedrock shore inhabitants such as the carnivorous butterwort and the low-growing evergreen shrub, black crowberry, share a common bond. These plants are arctic disjunct species; typically found much farther to the north. These disjuncts are believed to be relicts of the last glaciation and only persist in favorable microclimates created by Lake Superior.

Will you find Prickly Saxifrage in visits to other national parks or natural areas in the lower 48 states? Nope, Isle Royale is the only location in the entire contiguous United States where this attractive saxifrage occurs!

Janet Marr, Botanist



## Coasting Along

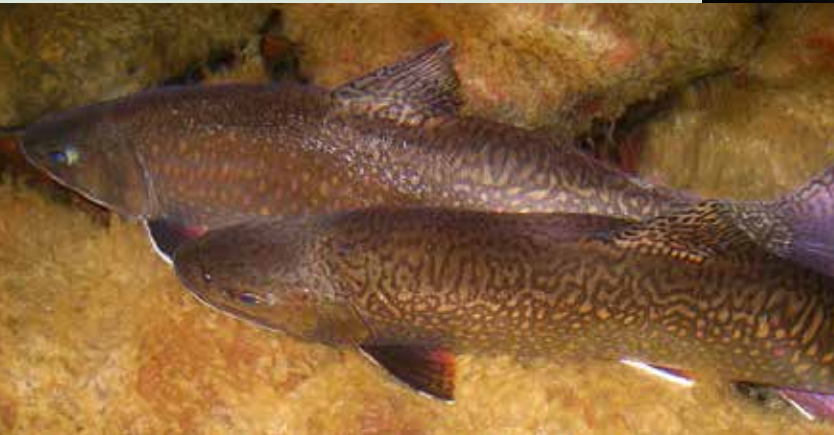
Coasters. No, it’s not the successor to Generation Z, but rather a name given to our native brook trout that cruise the longest stretch of freshwater shoreline in the world, including the shoreline of Isle Royale National Park.

All the hues of the palette are needed to capture the colors of the coaster: deep forest green embellished with yellow brush strokes for the back; vivid red for irregularly placed spots, each surrounded by a halo of blue; brilliant yellow-orange for the belly; pure white for fin edges outlined with black pigment. Coasters elicit awe and admiration from even the most seasoned artists, anglers. . .and researchers.

The connection between the colorful coaster and the history of Lake Superior is as deep as the lake itself. Coasters were a draw that brought pleasure seekers to this region.

While once widespread throughout Lake Superior, coasters today are a rare sight. But these beauties can still be seen at Isle Royale—home to several populations of coasters. The protection provided by the intact habitat, remote location, and park conservation regulations provide as much certainty as possible for a bright future for coasters

Henry Quinlan  
Fisheries Biologist  
US Fish & Wildlife Service



## Going with the Flow

Isle Royale’s origins are rooted in a fiery volcanic past: large ponded lava flows that spilled from fissures in the Earth about one billion years ago.

The majestic ridges running east-west on the island are actually individual lava flows—and some of the largest known on Earth. These basalt flows took centuries or even millennia to cool, quite remarkable when compared to modern flows that cool in days, or a few years. This extraordinarily slow cooling rate has resulted in distinctive features in the black rocks.

Perhaps you’ve run your hand along the rounded concentric bumps on the island’s weathered rock surfaces. This striking pattern, known as ophitic texture, is the hallmark of large Isle Royale lava flows. The rounded bumps are pyroxene crystals that were able to grow within the slow-cooling, mushy center of the flows.

Perhaps you’ve noticed bubbles seemingly captured in the rock. These vesicles formed as gases escaped the slow-cooling flows. Occasionally, these voids were later filled with the stunning green, pink, and white minerals that rightly catch our eye.

Perhaps most beautiful is the experience of simply sitting upon these ancient flows and contemplating our place in deep time, our insignificant yet profound connection to something greater.

Erika Vye, Geologist, Michigan Technological University



### Searching for a Biennial Butterfly

When I first learned that some northern species of butterflies are “biennial”—they take two years to develop from egg to adult—that seemed odd to me. I decided to study the Macoun’s Arctic to better understand this unusual life history. In the last decade, I logged over 60,000 miles in search of this species.

For a brief three-and-a-half weeks every other year, adult arctics emerge, mate, and lay eggs. They rarely feed on flowers, instead spending most of their time basking on the ground where they are remarkably well-camouflaged with lichens.

On Isle Royale this boreal species was known from just three specimens prior to 1982. That summer, a team of butterfly enthusiasts documented a hundred Macoun’s Arctics there in just one week. However, in subsequent years it was rarely reported, and park staff believed it had become rare. Did it still occur on the island?

To answer that question, I traveled to the park to verify its status. In forest clearings and along exposed rocky ridges, especially along the Greenstone Trail, it was the most common butterfly species encountered! On later trips, I found arctics wherever I searched on the basaltic ridges that run the length of the island.

You have no chance of seeing this butterfly anywhere farther south—northern Minnesota and Isle Royale are the only places that this fluttering beauty has been documented in the United States.

Gard Otis, Entomologist, University of Guelph



### Blooming in One Small Spot

There aren’t many places where you can view a species in its entirety at one location. But you can do this on Isle Royale for the delicate yellow daisy-like Isle Royale Ragwort, officially called *Packera insulae-regalis*, which grows in a patch about the size of a bowling lane. This rare flower is an Isle Royale endemic, found nowhere else in the world. How did this happen?

Although we think new species arise through gradual change over many millennia, some species can form quickly, by duplicating the number of sets of their chromosomes. The Isle Royale Ragwort is hexaploid, with six sets of genes. This makes it incompatible with more common species, which have two or four sets, and genetically isolates this species. It then developed its own identifiable features. These features show in the beauty of each flower head, made up of tiny flowers of two types—disc flowers in the middle surrounded by ray flowers ringing the outside.

Isle Royale Ragwort was officially described as a species in 2011. Its recognition as a species allowed it to be classified as Critically Endangered because it is a tiny population only known to occur at a single location in the world.

Joan Edwards, Botanist, Williams College



### Uncovering Ancient Beauty

Well inland from today’s Lake Superior, Isle Royale’s ancient shorelines hold evidence about early human use of the island. In 2013, a site that was inhabited more than 3,700 years ago was uncovered during archaeological surveys—the oldest occupation site on Isle Royale recorded thus far. A copper knife found at the site provided a rare glimpse into past human activities.

While rare in the world, copper in its pure form is found in abundance on Isle Royale (and the geologically connected Keweenaw Peninsula). This native copper could be fashioned into blades, awls, and other implements and was a valuable trade item. Imagine the immense labor of extracting copper from the surrounding rock using nothing but hand tools. Consider the craftsmanship that went into creating a perfectly functional knife from the mined ore.

We even have insight to how this beautifully crafted tool was used. Analysis of the knife revealed proteins on the blade from two different animal groups, rodents and canids. Likely it was used to kill or process animals, possibly beaver or squirrel.

The earliest evidence of mining on Isle Royale dates to more than 4,500 years ago. Each artifact found adds another facet to the portrait of the earliest visitors to this archipelago.

Seth DePasqual, Cultural Resources Manager, Isle Royale National Park



# Visiting Isle Royale

Isle Royale National Park is a remote wilderness area, and visits to the island require thoughtful planning and preparation.

### Park Entrance Fees

There is a daily entrance fee of \$7 per person per calendar day. This applies to all park visitors, including those visiting the park or park waters for one day. The Isle Royale Season Pass and National Parks and Federal Recreation Lands Passes (Annual, Senior, Military, and Access) all cover this fee for the pass holder and up to three accompanying adults. Children aged 15 years and younger are exempt (see page 11).

### Insects

Expect mosquitoes and black flies to peak in June or July. During wet summers, mosquito populations can continue well into August. Bring insect repellent, netting, or other skin barriers. Dry summers often result in an abundance of wasps. Bring an epinephrine kit if you or a member of your party is allergic to bee stings.

### Drinking Water

Potable water is only available in Rock Harbor and Windigo.

### Wheeled Transportation

Wheeled vehicles (except for non-motorized wheelchairs) or other mechanical forms of transportation are not allowed outside developed areas at Rock Harbor and Windigo. This includes bicycles and portaging devices.

### Pets

Dogs, cats, and other mammals are not allowed. This includes pets on boats within the park boundaries, which extend 4.5 miles into Lake Superior from the outermost land areas of the park. Visitors bringing pets to Isle Royale will be required to leave immediately. Pets disturb wildlife and can transmit diseases, particularly to wolves. Special conditions apply to service dogs. For details visit [www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/service-dogs.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/service-dogs.htm)

### Customs

All vessels arriving from Canada (US or Canadian) must clear US Customs at the Windigo or Rock Harbor Visitor Center during regular business hours. A valid passport, US Passport card, enhanced driver's license, or Trusted Traveler Program card is required. Visitors from Canada can be cleared for Isle Royale only. For additional information visit [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov).

### Commercial Groups and Special Use Permits

For-profit groups providing goods, activities, or service to the general public within the park must obtain a Commercial Use Authorization – CUA (\$200 application fee). These groups include camps, outfitters, tour groups, or any other operation that provides compensation, monetary gain, benefit, or profit to an individual, organization, or corporation for the authorized use. Applications for CUAs are accepted between January 2 and May 15.

Commercial filming and still photography, and special events (e.g. weddings) require a Special Use Permit. Fee depends on type of activity and number of people.

For application forms visit [www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/special-permit-fees.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/special-permit-fees.htm)

## Caution – Wilderness Ahead!

The island's wilderness and Lake Superior present challenges and potential hazards to the inexperienced or ill-prepared. Bring a first aid kit, a sufficient supply of any needed medications, and clothing appropriate for the time of year and your planned activities.

### Emergencies

Basic emergency services are available on the island, but contacting rangers for assistance can be difficult. Cell phone service is not reliable; do not depend on it for your trip. Emergency response and evacuation take time, requiring you to rely on your own skills and equipment. Most private boaters on Lake Superior have radios and may be able to contact park rangers in an emergency.

To contact the park in an emergency: 1-800-433-1986

Via satellite phone or from Canada: 440-546-5945

### Watch the Weather

Weather and lake conditions can deteriorate quickly and unexpectedly. Fog and waves can quickly create dangerous conditions for boaters and paddlers.

**Hypothermia** can occur any time of the year, especially near Lake Superior, where water and air temperatures are cool to cold year-round. The best defense is to stay warm and dry. Dress in layers and don raingear before you get wet. Mild symptoms of hypothermia include shivering, apathy, and coordination loss. If someone in your party shows these signs, stop and get the person warm and dry. Add more layers, climb in a sleeping bag, and sip warm liquids.

### On the Trail

**Watch Your Step!** The footing is often uneven. Roots and rocks can trip the unwary hiker. When wet, trails are muddy, and roots, rocks, and boardwalks are extremely slippery.

**Stay on the Path:** As you travel, you may encounter obstructions. Go over or under downed trees and through puddles and mud. Skirting obstructions widens or creates new trails, impacting habitat.

**Plan Conservatively:** Many people underestimate hiking travel times and overestimate their abilities. Plan shorter, realistic travel days; don't turn your wilderness trek into a forced march.

**Be Kind to Your Feet:** Wear sturdy, well-broken-in boots. Address hot spots and small blisters right away, before they become real problems. Give your feet spa treatment after hiking by soaking them in a lake and wearing comfy shoes in camp.

### Drinking Water

Potable water is only available in Rock Harbor and Windigo. All surface lake and stream water should be considered contaminated with pathogens.

Drinking contaminated water can make you very sick. Pass water through a 0.4 micron or finer filter, or bring to a roiling boil for at least one minute. By itself, chemical treatment is not an effective method of water purification. SteriPENs and other UV purifiers have not been manufacturer-tested for an Isle Royale parasite and cannot be considered effective.

### Dehydration

Drink plenty of water. When dehydrated, you tire more quickly, do not think clearly, and are more prone to fall. Dehydration is a factor in most medical problems experienced in the park.

Water can be scarce between campgrounds, especially along ridges. Carry a minimum of two quarts of water per person; drink and refill whenever near water sources. In hot weather, start hiking early, travel at a slower pace, and rest in shady spots. Dehydration also occurs in cold weather as most people do not feel thirsty and tend to drink less.

Watch for mild signs of dehydration: thirst, fatigue, headache, and dizziness. Signs of severe dehydration include: nausea, reduced or no sweating, and long stretches without urinating.

### Toxic Water Alert

In recent years, blue-green algae blooms have occurred in inland lakes. Blue-green algae can be toxic and filtering does not remove toxins from the water. Avoid swimming, fishing, or filtering water if it has a cloudy-blue cast or looks like "pea soup." If algae blooms occur, advisories will be posted at park visitor centers, affected lakes and campgrounds, and through website alerts.





# Protecting Your Park

Please do your part to preserve and protect the park’s wilderness character for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

## Leave What You Find

Objects of interest such as antlers, plants, driftwood, cultural or archeological resources, rocks and minerals including those found in Lake Superior, must be left where they are. Removing, possessing, or disturbing park resources is prohibited. Fishing and picking small quantities of berries and mushrooms for consumption are allowed.

**Graffiti** mars the park for other visitors. Leave the park as you find it.

## Quiet, Please

Most visitors come to Isle Royale to hear the sounds of nature in a wild setting. Soundscapes, or sound environments, are an important feature of the park. Be aware of the noise that you make so others may enjoy the peace and solitude.

**Quiet Hours** are between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am eastern time. If people in adjacent campsites can hear your activities, you are being too loud.

**Operation of electronic and motorized devices** such as stereos, television, radios, and portable generators is not permitted except in the developed areas of Rock Harbor and Windigo, and in Lake Superior waters outside of designated quiet/no wake zones.

## Keep the Island Clean

**Trash:** All trash and leftover food (including peels, cores, and nutshells) must be packed out. Trash and food scraps must not be burned, buried, or placed in outhouses. Be thoughtful about micro-litter (small pieces of waste, wrapper corners). Carrying a zip-lock bag for securing small trash is a great way to prevent inadvertent littering.

**Human Waste Disposal:** Use outhouses. Never defecate within 100' (at least 50 steps) of lakes, streams, trails, or campsites. In areas without outhouses, dig a cathole 6" to 8" deep; after use, cover with soil. Urinate on durable surfaces, like rocks or bare soil, away from campsites and water sources.

**Cookware Cleaning:** Use hot water and elbow grease. Soap is unnecessary for most dishwashing; even biodegradable soaps take a long time to degrade. Use these products sparingly and keep at least 100' from water sources and campsites. Use a small strainer to remove food bits from the water and pack them out with your trash. The remaining water should be dispersed away from water sources and campsites.

**Bathing:** Use soap sparingly, if necessary. Get wet, then move at least 100' away from all water sources and campsites to lather and rinse.

## Minimize Use of Fires

Campfires are permitted at a handful of campgrounds. A backpacking stove is highly recommended. Where campfires are allowed, a metal fire ring or grate is provided; never build your own ring.

**Use Dead and Down Wood** no bigger around than your wrist. Do not break branches or strip bark from standing trees, live or dead. Trash has no place in a backcountry fire. Do not import firewood; insects and pathogens from infected wood could devastate Isle Royale’s forests.

**Be Safe With Fire:** Keep your fire small and burn down to ash; be sure the fire is completely out before leaving it.

## Invader Alert

Invasive species are considered to be one of the top threats to the ecological integrity of national parks. You are responsible for taking time before and during your trip to prevent the transport of invasives to and around Isle Royale.

## Before Traveling to Isle Royale

**Campers:** Clean your tent, backpack, camping gear, clothing, and boots.

**Anglers:** Clean fishing gear and change line spools

**Boaters, Canoeists, and Kayakers:** Vessel owners are legally responsible for aquatic invasive species decontamination prior to entering park waters (extending 4.5 miles from Isle Royale and the outer islands). This applies to all vessels (power and sailboats, canoes, kayaks, etc.).

- Remove weeds, algae, and other plant and animal materials from your boat. Drain live wells and bilge on land.
- For smaller boats: Either clean and dry your boat and equipment in the sun for five days, or wash boat, including bilge and equipment with greater than 104° F water, high pressure water, or disinfectant.
- For large boats: Inspect for and remove zebra mussels and other aquatic invasives attached to your trim tabs, swim platform, motor mounts, hull, and equipment.

**Divers:** Wash all dive gear in warm, chlorinated tap water. Dry all dive gear and wetsuits for seven days before entering park waters.

## While on Isle Royale

**Water Filtering:** After filtering Lake Superior water, change or clean your filter before using it inland.

**Anglers:** When moving from Lake Superior to inland waters, clean gear and change line spools.

**Canoes, Kayaks, and Other Non-motorized Vessels:** Before moving from Lake Superior to inland waters, wipe down your boat and associated gear.

## Park Regulations

The regulations of Isle Royale National Park are intended to protect park resources and appropriate visitor experiences. Regulations place strong emphasis on preserving wilderness character and values. Visitors are responsible for adhering to park regulations.

For detailed information on park regulations visit [www.nps.gov/isro/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/learn/management/lawsandpolicies.htm)

**Weapons, Traps, & Nets:** The use or possession of weapons, traps, and nets is prohibited. Weapons include any implements designed to discharge a projectile or missile in the air or water and include slingshots, blowguns, and bows and arrows. Fireworks are prohibited.

Exception: Possession of firearms within the park is regulated by Michigan law. The discharge of firearms within park boundaries is prohibited.

**No Drone Zone:** Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft on lands and water of the park is prohibited.

## Leave No Trace

Adventure, simple living, and solitude are important components of an Isle Royale visit. In order to ensure these experiences, visitors should be familiar with skills and habits that foster an ethic of Leave No Trace. For guidance visit [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).

# Wildlife

Isle Royale is home to an abundance of animals, but many common species from the surrounding mainland are missing. The island’s isolation has created a simple, yet spectacular ecosystem.

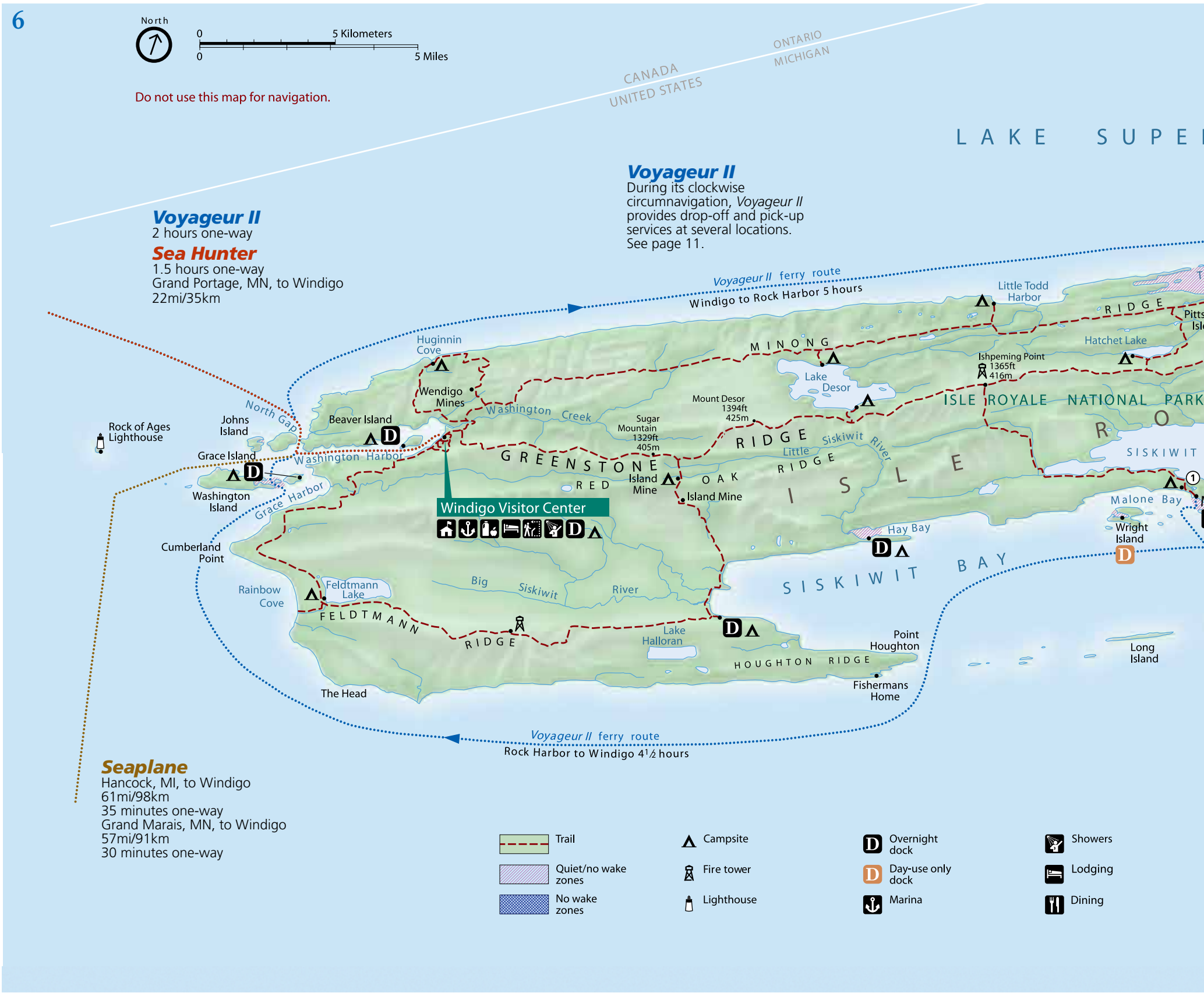
**Show Respect.** Observe, photograph, and enjoy park wildlife from a safe and respectful distance. If an animal changes its behavior, you are too close. It is illegal to feed, touch, tease, or intentionally disturb wildlife, their homes, nests, or activities.

**Loons** are especially susceptible to disturbance, and may abandon their shoreline nests when approached too closely. From mid-May through July 15 (loon nesting season) visitors must stay at least 150' away from small islands and from nests along the shore.

**Moose** are large and potentially dangerous animals. Always give them wide berth. If you encounter a moose, step behind a tree and wait for the moose to move on. Throughout the spring and summer, female moose are rearing young and are very protective. Never get between a cow and her calf. During fall rut, bull moose are often aggressive.

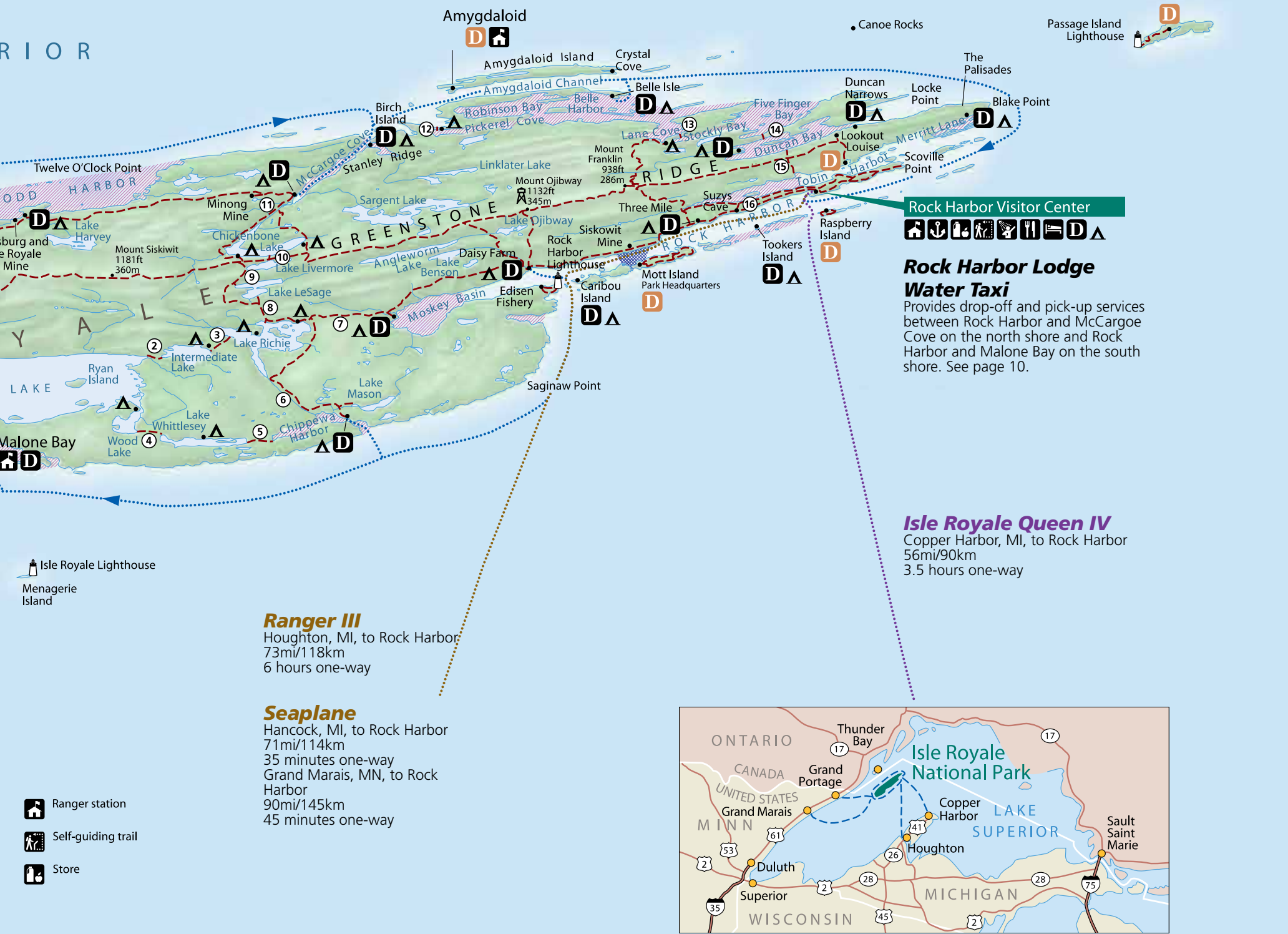
**Keep Wildlife Wild.** Discourage animals from approaching humans. Practice proper food storage and keep a clean camp. To protect your food make sure it is sealed in scent-proof containers and secured. Hard-sided containers are preferred, but using doubled zip-lock bags for your food and scented items is also appropriate. Animals will steal unattended food and other items.





Campgrounds								
Key: CR - Fires in community ring only S - Self-contained stoves only W - Treated water supply F - Campfire rings or standing grills provided								
	Consecutive Night Stay Limit 6/1 - Labor Day	Individual Tent Sites	Shelters	Group Tent Sites	Special Information	Depth at Dock Normal Conditions	On-board Generator Use Allowed	
Beaver Island	3	0	3	0	S	2' - 5'	yes	
Belle Isle	5	1	6	0	F	13'	yes	
Birch Island	3	1	1	0	S	5'	no	
Caribou Island	3	1	2	0	CR	10'	yes	
Chickenbone E	2	3	0	1	S	-	-	
Chickenbone W	2	6	0	3	S	-	-	
Chippewa Harbor	3	2	4	1	F	7'	no	
Daisy Farm	3	6	16	3	S	9'	no	
Desor N	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
Desor S	2	7	0	3	S	-	-	
Duncan Bay	3	1	2	0	F	6'	no	
Duncan Narrows	3	1	2	0	F	6'	no	
Feldtmann Lake	2	5	0	2	S	-	-	
Grace Island	3	0	2	0	S	2' - 4'	yes	
Hatchet Lake	2	5	0	3	S	-	-	
Hay Bay	3	1	0	0	S	3' - 7'	yes	
Huginnin Cove	3	5	0	0	S	-	-	
Intermediate Lake	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
Island Mine	3	4	0	2	F	-	-	
Lake Richie	2	4	0	2	S	-	-	
Lake Richie/Canoe	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
Lake Whittlesey	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
Lane Cove	3	5	0	0	S	-	-	
Little Todd	2	4	0	0	F	-	-	
Malone Bay	3	0	5	2	F	3' - 6'	yes	
McCargoe Cove	3	3	6	3	CR	7'	no	
Merritt Lane	3	1	1	0	S	8'	no	
Moskey Basin	3	2	6	2	S	8'	no	
Pickerel Cove	2	1	0	0	S	-	-	
Rock Harbor	1	11	9	3	S-W	-	-	
Rock Harbor Marina	Unlimited	0	0	0	F-W	3' - 12'	yes	
Siskiwit Bay	3	4	2	3	CR	2' - 6'	no	
Three Mile	1	4	8	3	S	9'	no	
Tobin Harbor Dock	5	0	0	0	S	3' - 8'	yes	
Todd Harbor	3	5	1	3	CR	2'	no	
Tookers Island	3	0	2	0	S	7'	no	
Washington Creek	3	5	10	4	S-W	-	-	
Windigo Dock	5	0	0	0	S	4' - 20'	yes	
Wood Lake	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	

Canoe Portages		
Distance•Elevation Change•Comment		
①	Malone Bay - Siskiwit Lake 0.3 mile, 40' Gradual Slope	
②	Siskiwit Lake - Intermediate Lake 0.4 mile, 40' Gradual	
③	Intermediate Lake - Lake Richie 0.6 mile, 120' Hilly and wooded	
④	Wood Lake - Lake Whittlesey 0.6 mile, 80' Rolling	
⑤	Lake Whittlesey - Chippewa Harbor 0.6 mile, 140' Steep grades and rocky	
⑥	Chippewa Harbor - Lake Richie 1.2 miles, 160' Hilly	
⑦	Moskey Basin - Lake Richie 2.0 miles, 120' Gradual but long	
⑧	Lake Richie - Lake LeSage 0.6 mile, 100' Steep grades, wet	
⑨	Lake LeSage - Lake Livermore 0.4 mile, 80' Steep grades, wet	
⑩	Lake Livermore - Chickenbone Lake 0.2 mile, 40' Steep but short	
⑪	Chickenbone Lake - McCargoe Cove 1.2 miles, 80' Hilly	
⑫	Pickerel Cove 0.1 mile, 10' Short and sweet	
⑬	Lane Cove - Stockly Bay 0.1 mile, 8' Short and sweet	
⑭	Five Finger Bay - Duncan Bay 0.2 mile, 8' Short and sweet	
⑮	Duncan Bay - Tobin Harbor 0.8 mile, 175' Extremely steep	
⑯	Tobin Harbor - Rock Harbor 0.2 mile, 40' Gradual up and down	



Trail Mileage Between Campgrounds

Chickenbone E	Chickenbone W	Chippewa Harbor	Daisy Farm	Desor N	Desor S	Feldtmann Lake	Hatchet Lake	Huginnin Cove	Island Mine	Lake Richie	Lane Cove	Little Todd	Malone Bay	McCargoe Cove	Moskey Basin	Rock Harbor	Siskiwit Bay	Three Mile	Todd Harbor	Washington Creek	
-	1.8	9.3	6.1	19.6	16.4	35.8	9.3	30.3	21.3	5.0	10.9	15.6	19.6	2.1	7.3	13.3	25.7	10.5	8.7	27.1	Chickenbone E
1.8	-	7.9	7.9	19.8	15.0	34.4	7.9	29.1	19.9	3.6	12.7	16.2	18.2	2.7	5.9	14.8	24.3	12.5	9.3	25.7	Chickenbone W
9.3	7.9	-	9.7	27.3	22.5	42.0	15.2	36.4	27.2	4.3	16.6	22.6	25.7	10.6	6.2	16.8	31.6	14.1	17.3	33.0	Chippewa Harbor
6.1	7.9	9.7	-	26.0	22.5	41.9	15.4	37.3	27.4	5.8	6.9	21.5	27.2	8.2	3.9	7.1	31.8	4.4	14.9	33.2	Daisy Farm
19.6	19.8	27.3	26.0	-	20.0	21.4	12.3	14.4	18.6	23.0	30.8	5.7	23.2	18.0	25.3	33.1	23.0	30.4	11.4	12.6	Desor N
16.4	15.0	22.5	22.5	20.0	-	20.1	8.1	14.7	5.5	18.2	27.3	15.5	10.8	17.7	20.5	29.4	9.9	26.7	11.8	11.3	Desor S
35.8	34.4	42.0	41.9	21.4	20.1	-	27.6	12.8	14.6	37.8	46.7	26.1	30.3	37.1	40.1	49.0	10.3	46.3	31.8	8.8	Feldtmann Lake
9.3	7.9	15.2	15.4	12.3	8.1	27.6	-	25.7	13.0	11.1	20.2	7.8	11.3	10.7	13.4	22.3	17.4	19.8	4.1	18.8	Hatchet Lake
30.3	29.1	36.4	37.3	14.4	14.7	12.8	25.7	-	10.0	32.3	41.2	19.1	24.9	31.8	34.6	44.4	14.4	41.7	24.8	4.0	Huginnin Cove
21.3	19.9	27.2	27.4	18.6	5.5	14.6	13.0	10.0	-	23.1	32.2	20.4	15.7	22.6	25.4	34.3	4.4	31.6	16.7	6.6	Island Mine
5.0	3.6	4.3	5.8	23.0	18.2	37.8	11.1	32.3	23.1	-	12.7	18.5	21.4	6.3	2.3	12.9	27.5	10.2	13.0	28.9	Lake Richie
10.9	12.7	16.6	6.9	30.8	27.3	46.7	20.2	41.2	32.2	12.7	-	26.5	30.5	13.0	10.8	6.9	36.6	4.6	19.5	38.3	Lane Cove
15.6	16.2	22.6	21.5	5.7	15.5	26.1	7.8	19.1	20.4	18.5	26.5	-	18.7	13.5	22.1	28.6	24.8	25.9	7.0	17.3	Little Todd
19.6	18.2	25.7	27.2	23.2	10.8	30.3	11.3	24.9	15.7	21.4	30.5	18.7	-	20.9	23.7	34.3	20.1	31.6	15.0	21.5	Malone Bay
2.1	2.7	10.6	8.2	18.0	17.7	37.1	10.7	31.8	22.6	6.3	13.0	13.5	20.9	-	8.4	15.3	27.0	12.6	6.7	28.4	McCargoe Cove
7.3	5.9	6.2	3.9	25.3	20.5	40.1	13.4	34.6	25.4	2.3	10.8	22.1	23.7	8.4	-	11.0	29.8	8.3	15.1	31.0	Moskey Basin
13.3	14.8	16.8	7.1	33.1	29.4	49.0	22.3	44.4	34.3	12.9	6.9	28.6	34.3	15.3	11.0	-	38.7	2.7	22.2	40.1	Rock Harbor
25.7	24.3	31.6	31.8	23.0	9.9	10.3	17.4	14.4	4.4	27.5	36.6	24.8	20.1	27.0	29.8	38.7	-	36.0	21.1	11.0	Siskiwit Bay
10.5	12.5	14.1	4.4	30.4	26.7	46.3	19.8	41.7	31.6	10.2	4.6	25.9	31.6	12.6	8.3	2.7	36.0	-	19.5	37.8	Three Mile
8.7	9.3	17.3	14.9	11.4	11.8	31.8	4.1	24.8	16.7	13.0	19.5	7.0	15.0	6.7	15.1	22.2	21.1	19.5	-	23.0	Todd Harbor
27.1	25.7	33.0	33.2	12.6	11.3	8.8	18.8	4.0	6.6	28.9	38.3	17.3	21.5	28.4	31.0	40.1	11.0	37.8	23.0	-	Washington Creek



# Things to Do

## Hiking

Over a hundred miles of trail wind through forests and hug the shoreline, climb steeply to ridgetop views, and descend into wetlands. Ninety-nine percent of the park’s land base is federally designated wilderness that beckons you to explore.

## Camping

Thirty-six campgrounds are scattered throughout the park. Campsites are accessible only by foot or watercraft. All campgrounds have tent sites, outhouses, and are sited near a water source. Many of the campgrounds located on the Lake Superior shoreline offer docks, shelters, and picnic tables.

**Camping Permits** are required for all overnight stays at campgrounds, cross-country sites, docks, or at anchor, regardless of party size or method of travel.

### Group Camping (parties of seven or more)

Advance reservations are required for any group or organization, including families and friends traveling together, bringing seven or more people to the island (see page 9).

### Small-party Camping (parties of six or fewer)

All small-party campsites contain either tent sites or a three-sided shelter. Shelters and tent sites for individual small parties are available first-come, first-served. Expect crowded campsites from late July through August. When sites are full, campers should double up and share empty tent pad space.

**Shelters:** Shelters may not be reserved and may not be used solely for cooking or gear storage. To minimize damage to vegetation, tents and hammocks may not be erected outside shelters; tents may be used inside shelters. Using nails, staples, tacks, and/or tape to attach items to shelters is prohibited.

**Hammocks:** In campgrounds, hammocks may only be used within the existing impacted area of designated campsites and not in the surrounding trees or vegetation. Hammocks may not be erected at shelter sites or inside shelters. Appropriate hammock locations may not be available; plan on bringing a tent. Choose trees with care; many cannot support a hammock. Hammock use must not damage trees.

**Off-trail Camping:** Campers must stay in established campsites unless off-trail (cross-country) arrangements are made when permitting. Terrain and vegetation make off-trail hiking and camping difficult.

## Canoeing/Kayaking

With numerous lakes, bays, and islands, the park provides miles of waterways for the experienced canoeist and kayaker.

**Route Considerations:** Lake Superior is well-known for its cold temperatures, fog, and sudden squalls that can generate large waves. Small, open vessels are encouraged to use the numerous miles of inland lake waterways instead.

**Requirements:** Every canoeist and kayaker must have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device. Wear it; your life may depend on it.

**Weather:** Canoeists and kayakers should consult the marine forecast at visitor centers before embarking. Be prepared to adjust your schedule. A portable marine radio is recommended for overnight trips.

**Inland Lake Canoe Routes and Portages** are on the northeast half of the island. Portages are marked with a letter “P” on a post (see page 6).

**Boat Rentals** are available at Windigo and Rock Harbor. Contact Rock Harbor Lodge for more information (see page 10).



West Chickenbone Campground, Tent Site 6

## Fishing

With its multitude of reefs and bays on Lake Superior and its numerous interior lakes and streams, Isle Royale provides varied opportunities for recreational fishing.

### Lake Superior Waters

- A Michigan fishing license is required for fishing in Lake Superior, including narrow bays and harbors, and when transporting fish from the island to the mainland. Youth age 17 years or younger may fish without a license.
- Possession or use of bait for fishing within Lake Superior park waters is limited to those fish and/or fish parts caught within park waters. Transporting fish or fish parts for use as bait to the park is prohibited.

### Inland Lakes and Streams

- Licenses are not required to fish on the inland waters of Isle Royale.
- Barbless hooks and artificial lures only in all inland lakes, streams, and creeks.

**Possession Limits** are usually the same as those set by the State of Michigan.

Anglers should refer to the Michigan fishing regulations for possession limits and detailed license requirements for Lake Superior (see chart for a brief overview of regulations.)

**Fishing Licenses:** Only 24-hour licenses are available on the island, and only when concession services are open. Purchase a Michigan fishing license in advance, and download a copy of the Michigan Fishing Guide at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

**Disposal of Fish Remains:** Eliminate potential for attracting and feeding wildlife by reducing unsightly fish remains and odors. Clean fish away from docks and campgrounds. Do not throw remains into shallow water, to gulls, or to other wildlife. To dispose of remains:

- At Rock Harbor and Windigo, use the fish cleaning station.
- At other Lake Superior locations, deposit chopped remains (pieces 4” or less) into water at least 50’ in depth.
- At inland lake sites deposit chopped remains (pieces 4” or less) into deep water via canoe or move at least 200’ (75 steps) from the campground and throw chopped remains as far as possible into deep water.

**Fish Consumption Advisory:** Contaminants in the park ecosystem remind us that although Isle Royale is remote, it is part of a global system. Research in six inland lakes (Sargent, Siskiwit, Eva, Shesheeb, Wagejo, and Anglemorm) shows fish with mercury levels exceeding state fish consumption advisories. Visit [www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish](http://www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish).

Fishing Regulations				
Species	Season	Minimum Size	Daily Possession Limit	Comment
Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout, and Salmon in Lake Superior	All Year	10" except 15" for lake trout	5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any one species - only one over 34"	*1, *2
Lake Trout in Siskiwit Lake	April 16 to Oct 31			*2, *3, *4
Coaster Brook Trout in Lake Superior	Last Saturday in April to Labor Day	N/A	Catch and release only in park waters	*1
Brook Trout in Streams and Hidden Lake	Last Saturday in April to Labor Day	N/A	Catch and release only - No possession allowed.	*3, *4
Rainbow Trout in Streams		7"	5 fish with no more than 3 fish over 15"	
Lake Herring (Cisco) and Lake Whitefish in Inland Lakes	April 16 to Oct 31	N/A	Catch and release only	*3, *4
Yellow Perch in Lake Superior and Inland Lakes		No minimum size	50 Recommend Daily Limit of 10	
Northern Pike in Lake Superior and Inland Lakes	May 15 to Oct 31	Lake Superior 24" Inland Lakes - No min size, 30" max	5 in any combination, but no more than 2 Northern Pike	*3, *4
Walleye in Lake Superior and Inland Lakes		15"		
Review the <a href="#">Michigan Fishing Guide</a> for additional fish species, seasons, creel limits, and 2018 regulation updates and changes.				
*1 Park boundaries extend 4.5 miles into Lake Superior from the outermost land areas.				
*2 For additional trout/salmon fishing information, review the Michigan Fishing Guide.				
*3 Artificial lure means any lure or fly manufactured in imitation of, or as a substitute for, natural bait. It is unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead or preserved bait, organic or processed food, or scented material on interior lakes or streams.				
*4 Only barbless hooks may be used for fishing the park's rivers, creeks, streams, and all inland lakes. Barbed hooks are only allowed in Lake Superior waters.				



Boating

Hundreds of islands and surrounding Lake Superior waters are within the boundaries of the park. Numerous docks and countless anchorages provide access for power and sailboats.

**Plan Ahead:** All boaters should make themselves familiar with information in the Isle Royale Boating Guide. Visit [www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/boating-guide.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/boating-guide.htm)

**Lake Superior** offers challenging and often dangerous weather in the form of dense fog, high winds, waves, and thunderstorms. Combine rocky reefs and limited safe harbors with Isle Royale’s remoteness, and it pays for you, your crew, and your boat to be shipshape.

**Day Use:** Boaters visiting the park or park waters for the day are required to pay entrance fees (see page 11) and are encouraged to fill out a day permit at Windigo, Rock Harbor, or Houghton. Call (906) 482-0984.

**Overnight Stays:** All boaters staying overnight at anchor, at docks, or in campgrounds must obtain a camping permit at Houghton, Rock Harbor, or Windigo. Boaters are encouraged to permit ahead of their trip. Call (906) 482-0984.

**Restricted Water Activities:** Water skiing and personal watercraft including vessels referred to as jet skis, waverunners, or sea-doo’s are prohibited.

All of the park’s inland lakes are located within designated wilderness, and may only be explored by paddling. Vessels with motors (even if not in use) are prohibited on inland lakes and streams.

**Quiet/No Wake Zones:** These zones promote quality visitor experience by providing relatively tranquil, natural marine surroundings. Within the zone, vessels must not exceed 5 mph or create a wake in excess of surrounding seas. See map on pages 6 and 7 and consult [www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/quiet-no-wake.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/quiet-no-wake.htm).

**On-Board Generators:** The operation or use of permanently installed (by the boat manufacturer) on-board vessel generators is limited to specific times and locations. Visit [www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/boating-guide.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/boating-guide.htm)

**Fuel:** Vessels carrying spare fuel in portable containers must use legally approved containers. Fuel may not be stored on docks.

Gasoline and diesel fuel are sold at Rock Harbor and Windigo when concession services are open (see page 10). Early and late season fuel may be obtained at Windigo and Mott Island if personnel are available.

Diving

Experienced divers can explore the National Park Service's most intact collection of shipwrecks.

**Dive Permits** are required. Each diver must register at a visitor center before diving.

To learn more visit: [www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/scuba-diving.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/scuba-diving.htm).

Deeper Connections  
Join a Workshop Sponsored by IRKPA

The Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association (IRKPA), in partnership with the National Park Service, promotes the public’s understanding and appreciation of Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park through education and research.

**Isle Royale Botany**.....June 4 - 9, 2018  
Participants explore early season plants in the Rock Harbor Area.

**Keweenaw Botany**.....July 24 - 26, 2018  
Explore the Keweenaw Peninsula's shorelines, ridges, forests, and wetlands  
Identify plants in habitats including boreal species and rare arctic disjuncts.

**Isle Royale Night Sky Photography** .....September TBD, 2018  
Beginning and intermediate photographers are invited to join Lake Superior Photo's Shawn Malone for this nature photography workshop with particular emphasis on capturing images of the night sky over Isle Royale.

**More Workshop Information:** <http://irkpa.org/get-involved/workshops>



Group Camping

Advance reservations are required for any group or organization, including families and friends traveling together, bringing seven or more people to the island.

If your group exceeds ten people you must split into two parties, each independent and traveling on completely separate itineraries. This means that groups with small-parties cannot camp in the same campground at the same time.

Organizations may not have more than twenty people camping on the island at any one time and are limited to eighty people a year.

Group leaders should carry medical information for each group member including known allergies, medical conditions, and medications currently taken.

How to Make A Group Camping Reservation Request

1. All group camping reservations must be made in advance.
2. Check out the group camping website:  
[www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/group-camping-parties-of-seven-to-ten.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/planyourvisit/group-camping-parties-of-seven-to-ten.htm).
3. Access the Isle Royale NP Group Fee on [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov). Search *Isle Royale*.
4. Click "Continue to Form" (red button in lower right corner).
5. Fill out the information in the online form: purchaser information, permit fee, and requested itinerary for each permit.
6. Submit payment.
7. After January 2, most likely in March, the park will contact you to confirm your requested itinerary or discuss any necessary changes. If your requested itinerary needs to be modified for any reason, staff will work with you directly to find an itinerary that works for your group.
8. Once an itinerary is approved, you will receive a permit confirmation email.

If You Have	You Will Camp At	Type of Permit	Obtain Your Permit At	Special Recreation Permit Fee
6 people or fewer	Individual Campsites, first-come, first-served	Small-party Backcountry Camping Permit	Rock Harbor or Windigo Visitor Center upon arrival to island, or onboard <i>Ranger III</i> ferry.	\$0
Two or more parties of 6 people or fewer (not to exceed 20)	Individual Campsites, first-come, first-served	Small-party Backcountry Camping Permit for each party of campers with completely separate itineraries**	Access the Isle Royale NP Group Fee form on <a href="http://www.pay.gov">www.pay.gov</a> .  The online form is available from January 2 through October 15 each year.	\$25 per pemit
One group of 7 – 10 people	Reserved Group Campsites	Group Camping Permit		\$25
Two groups of 7 – 10 people	Reserved Group Campsites	Two Group Camping Permits with completely separate itineraries**	After January 2, most likely in March, the park will contact you via email or phone to confirm your requested itinerary or discuss any necessary changes.	\$50
One group of 7-10 people and one or two parties of 6 people or fewer (not to exceed 20)	Reserved Group Campsites and Individual Campsites first-come, first-served	Group Camping Permit and Small-party Backcountry Camping Permit(s) with completely separate itineraries**		\$25 per permit
**Separate itineraries means that small-parties/groups cannot camp in the same campground at the same time.				



Educational programs are offered at Rock Harbor, Windigo, Houghton, and aboard *Ranger III*. The tour boat *The Sandy* offers guided excursions.

- All times are eastern time
- \$ = transportation cost
- \*\* = tour with a park ranger

ROCK HARBOR	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Rock Harbor Visitor Center</b> Information, books, maps, camping permits, dive permits, passes, ranger program schedules	6/11 – 9/2: Daily 8:00 am to 6:00 pm 9/3 – 9/15: Daily 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Prior to 6/11 and after 9/15: Open intermittently						
THE SANDY TOURS FROM ROCK HARBOR	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The trails on tours are rocky and uneven with some steep climbs and descents; trails may be slippery. Be prepared for cold temperatures and rain.	Tours operate 6/5 through 9/14. Obtain tickets at the lodge office. Rates available at the lodge and visitor center. Water Bus service available with some tours. Contact the lodge.						
<b>Hidden Lake/Lookout Louise (\$)**</b> A 4-mile boat trip is followed by a 2-mile round trip hike up to Lookout Louise for views of Canada. Return on the boat or hike 9.4 miles back to Rock Harbor.			9:00 am to 12:30 pm (Water Bus)		9:00 am to 12:30 pm (Water Bus)		
<b>Passage Island (\$)</b> An 8-mile boat tour crosses one of Isle Royale’s popular shipping lanes. The 2-mile round trip hike leads to Passage Island Lighthouse.		1:30 pm to 6:00 pm		9:00 am to 1:30 pm		1:30 pm to 6:00 pm	
<b>Edisen Fishery and Rock Harbor Light (\$)</b> Visit the historic commercial fishery with the resident fishery demonstrator and take a quarter-mile walk to the oldest lighthouse on Isle Royale and enjoy its maritime exhibits.			2:00 pm to 6:00 pm (Water Bus)		2:00 pm to 6:00 pm (Water Bus)		9:00 am to 1:30 pm (Water Bus)
<b>Raspberry Island/Sunset Cruise (\$)</b> Take a walk along a boardwalk through the spruce bog on Raspberry Island followed by a cruise around Scoville and Blake Points to view features like the Canada shoreline, the site of the <i>Monarch</i> shipwreck, and a Lake Superior sunset (after Aug. 15, cruise only).			8:00 pm to Sunset in June - July, 7:30 pm in Aug-September	2:30 pm to 5:30 pm Raspberry Island only		8:00 pm to Sunset in June - July, 7:30 pm in Aug-September	
WINDIGO	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Windigo Visitor Center</b> Information, books, maps, camping permits, dive permits, passes, ranger program schedules.	6/11 – 9/2: Daily 8:00 am to 6:00 pm 9/3 – 9/15: Daily 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Prior to 6/11 and after 9/15: Open intermittently						
HOUGHTON	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Houghton Visitor Center</b> Information, trip planning, books, maps, <i>Ranger III</i> and group camping reservations, boater camping permits, dive permits, and passes.	5/28 - 9/15: Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm; Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm 9/17 through 5/24/2019: Monday through Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; closed federal holidays						
<b>Keweenaw Waterway Cruises (\$)</b> 12:30 to 3:30 pm Enjoy an afternoon cruise along the scenic Keweenaw Waterway aboard <i>Ranger III</i> . A ranger will explore waterway landmarks and the significance to the Keweenaw Peninsula. For reservations call 906-482-0984.					6/28, 7/12, 7/19, 8/2, 8/9 and 8/30		
<b>Ranger Programs at the Portage Lake Public Library 1:00 pm</b> Join a National Park Service ranger for 45 minutes of indoor and outdoor activities at the Portage Lake District Library in Houghton. For children ages six through twelve years.			6/13 - 8/22 1:00 pm				

Forever Resorts: Rock Harbor and Windigo

Lakeside Lodge Rooms

Sixty rooms available; each accommodates four and offers private bath. Open 6/5 through night of 9/14.

Housekeeping Cabins

Twenty duplex cottages accommodate six and are furnished with kitchenettes, utensils, dishware, private bath, double bed and one bunk bed. Open 5/25 through night of 9/14.

Gift Shop and Dockside Store

Gift Shop offers handcrafted gifts, apparel, photo supplies, postcards, souvenirs, daily fishing licenses, and tackle. The store offers camping, hiking, and boating accessories, groceries, freeze-dried foods, fishing tackle, stove fuel, showers, laundry facilities, and sundries. Gift Shop open 6/5 through 9/14; Dockside store open 5/25 through 9/14.

Lighthouse Restaurant and Greenstone Grill

Hearty meals, including fresh lake trout. Visitors welcome for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Food service open 6/5 through breakfast on 9/15.

Marina

Offers 450 feet of dock space in Rock Harbor, accommodating boats up to 65 feet. Electrical, fresh water hook-up, sewage pump-out, gasoline, and diesel fuel, motorboat, canoe, and kayak rental available. Services open 5/25 through 9/14.

Fishing Charters and Sightseeing

Charters are fully equipped for catching lake trout and salmon. For details on sightseeing tours aboard *The Sandy*, see above. Open 6/5 through 9/14.

Windigo Store and Marina

Offers groceries, cold sandwiches, camping supplies, stove fuel, daily fishing licenses, tackle, gifts, and photo supplies. The marina offers gasoline, diesel, pump-out service, and motorboat, canoe and kayak rental. Shower and laundry facilities available. Open 6/5 through 9/9.

Windigo Camper Cabins

Two rustic cabins; each accommodates up to six and is furnished with table, chairs, full size futon, bunk beds with mattresses, electrical outlets and lighting. Each has a picnic table and propane grill. Water spigot and privy are nearby. Open 6/5 through night of 9/15.

10 Your Guide To Isle Royale National Park – 2018

The cost for utilities on Isle Royale is much higher than on the mainland. A utility surcharge will be added to the cost of some goods and services.



From Houghton, Michigan



**Ranger III**  
NPS owned and operated. 6 hours one-way to Rock Harbor.

**Schedule (eastern time)**  
5/29 – 9/15  
•Houghton to Rock Harbor  
Tues and Fri 9:00 am  
•Rock Harbor to Houghton  
Wed and Sat at 9:00 am

**Fares One-Way**  
**Low Season (Before 7/10, after 8/25)**  
Adult.....\$55.00  
**High Season (7/10 – 8/25)**  
Adult.....\$70.00  
**All Season**  
Child(1–15).....\$35.00  
Infant (under 1).....Free  
Boat (less than 18’01”).....\$100.00  
Boat (18’01” to 20’00”).....\$150.00  
Disabled Boat (Captain’s Discretion)  
(20’01” to 24’00”).....\$350.00  
Canoes/Kayaks: hand-loaded...\$30.00  
Canoes/Kayaks: oversized.....\$60.00  
Outboard Motor.....\$15.00  
100lbs. gear per passenger.....Free  
Freight after 100lbs.....\$9.50/100wt.

**Special Rates**  
**Ranger III Inauguration Special**  
**Round trip between 6/12 – 6/23**  
Adult.....\$70.00  
Child (1 – 15).....\$35.00  
**Keweenaw Waterway Cruises**  
6/28, 7/12, 7/19, 8/2, 8/9, 8/30  
Depart Houghton 12:30 pm (3 hours)  
Adult.....\$30.00  
Child(1–15).....\$15.00  
Infant (under 1).....Free

**Reservations**  
Payment required for confirmed reservation. Reservations accepted on or after January 2.

**Cancellations**  
Refunds, minus a 15% processing fee, if cancellation is received 3 days prior to sailing and tickets are returned. No refund within 3 days of sailing.

**Amenities**  
Free parking • Two decks for passenger use • *Ranger III* Grill • Interpretive programs • Backcountry orientation and permits issued onboard • Accessible bathroom

**Contact Information**  
**Phone:** (906) 482-0984  
**E-mail:** ISRO\_ParkInfo@nps.gov  
**Website:** [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)

From Copper Harbor, Michigan



**Isle Royale Queen IV**  
3.5 hours one-way, concession operated.

**Schedule (eastern time)**  
•Copper Harbor 8:00 am  
•Rock Harbor 2:45 pm  
5/14 – 6/8.....M, F  
6/11 – 6/30.....M, T, Th, F, Sat  
7/1 – 7/22.....M, T, Th, F, Sat, Sun  
7/23 – 8/26.....Every Day  
8/27 – 9/2.....M, T, Th, F, Sat, Sun  
9/3 – 9/14.....M, W, F, Sun  
9/17 – 9/28.....M, F

**Fares One-Way**  
**Low Season (5/14 – 7/19, 8/21 – 9/28)**  
•Adult.....\$62.00  
•Child (1 – 15).....\$47.00  
**High Season (7/20 – 8/20)**  
•Adult.....\$68.00  
•Child (1 – 15).....\$50.00  
**All Season**  
Infant (under 1).....Free  
Canoes/Kayaks.....\$30.00  
Double Kayaks.....\$40.00  
Motors (under 5 hp).....\$5.00  
Motors (5 hp and over).....\$15.00  
70lbs. gear per person.....Free

**Reservations**  
Online reservations available at [www.isleroyale.com](http://www.isleroyale.com). Phone reservations also taken. Full-fare deposit required. Canoes and kayaks require reservations.

**Cancellations**  
Refund is 85% if received prior to 3 days before sailing. No refund within 3 days of sailing. If canceling a group of 10 or more, 2 weeks notice is required.

**Miscellaneous**  
Parking fee • Limited snacks • Freight, canoes, etc. carried for passengers only • Baggage limited to 70 lbs. per passenger

**Contact Information**  
The Isle Royale Line, Inc.  
**Phone:** (906) 289-4437  
**E-mail:** isleroyalequeen@gmail.com  
**Website:** [www.isleroyale.com](http://www.isleroyale.com)

From Grand Portage, Minnesota



**Voyageur II**  
Grand Portage to Windigo - 2 hours one-way, Windigo to Rock Harbor - 5 hours one-way, concession operated.

**Schedule (central time)**  
•Grand Portage to Rock Harbor via Windigo/McCargoe Cove/Belle Isle  
7:30 am  
5/5 – 5/26.....W, Sat  
5/28 – 9/15.....M, W, Sat  
9/19 – 10/3.....W  
•Rock Harbor to Grand Portage via Daisy Farm/Chippewa Harbor/Malone Bay/Windigo 8:00 am (9:00 am EDT)  
5/6 – 5/27.....Th, Sun  
5/29 – 9/16.....T, Th, Sun  
9/20 – 10/4.....Th  
•Windigo Round Trip  
9/22 – 9/30.....Sat, Sun  
Grand Portage to Windigo.....8:00 am  
Windigo to Grand Portage.....1:00 pm  
.....(2:00 pm EDT)

**Fares One-Way**  
**Grand Portage to Windigo**  
•Adult.....\$71.00  
•Child (4 – 15).....\$64.00  
•Child (3 and under).....Free  
**Grand Portage to any same-day stop beyond Windigo or any same-day stop beyond Windigo to Grand Portage**  
•Adult.....\$85.00  
•Child (4 – 15).....\$77.00

**Inter-island travel between various same-day island stops**  
•Adult.....\$53.00 – 66.00  
•Child (4 – 15).....\$48.00 – 59.00  
**All Season**  
Canoe, Kayak.....\$40.00  
40 lbs. gear per passenger.....Free  
Air Tanks, Add. freight...\$40.00/100 lbs.

**Reservations**  
Payment required for confirmed reservations.

**Cancellations**  
Refund is 85% of fare, provided cancellation is received at least 2 full weeks prior to departure.

**Miscellaneous**  
Parking fee • Hot coffee • Fishing poles must be in protective cases • Hard gear must be in securely closed packs • Fuel surcharge • Arrange freight shipments in advance

**Contact Information**  
Grand Portage-Isle Royale Transportation Line, Inc.  
**Phone:** May - Oct: (218) 600-0765  
**E-mail:** [reservations@isleroyaleboats.com](mailto:reservations@isleroyaleboats.com)  
**Website:** [www.isleroyaleboats.com](http://www.isleroyaleboats.com)

From Grand Portage, Minnesota



**Sea Hunter III**  
1.5 hours one-way, concession operated.

**Schedule (central time)**  
•Grand Portage to Windigo 8:30 am  
6/6 – 7/7.....W, F, Sat  
7/11 – 8/12.....W, Th, F, Sat, Sun  
8/15 – 9/1.....W, F, Sat  
•Windigo to Grand Portage  
2:00 pm (3:00 pm EDT)  
6/6 – 7/7.....W, F, Sat  
7/11 – 8/12.....W, Th, F, Sat, Sun  
8/15 – 9/1.....W, F, Sat

**Fares One-Way**  
Adult.....\$71.00  
Child (4 – 15).....\$64.00  
Child (3 and under).....Free  
Canoe, Kayak.....\$40.00  
40 lbs. gear per passenger.....Free  
Additional freight.....\$40.00/100 lbs.

**Same-Day Round Trip**  
Adult.....\$67.00  
Child (4 – 15).....\$61.00  
Child (3 and under).....Free

**Reservations**  
Payment required for confirmed reservations.

**Cancellations**  
Refund is 85% of fare, provided cancellation is received at least 2 full weeks prior to departure.

**Miscellaneous**  
Parking fee • Hot coffee • Fishing poles must be in protective cases • Hard gear must be in securely closed packs • Fuel surcharge • Sightseeing en route

**Contact Information**  
Grand Portage-Isle Royale Transportation Line, Inc.  
**Phone:** May - Oct: (218) 600-0765  
**E-mail:** [reservations@isleroyaleboats.com](mailto:reservations@isleroyaleboats.com)  
**Website:** [www.isleroyaleboats.com](http://www.isleroyaleboats.com)

From Hancock, Michigan



**Seaplane**  
30 - 40 minutes to Windigo or Rock Harbor each way, concession-operated Cessna 206 and DeHavilland Beaver.

**Schedule**  
5/14 – 5/19.....M, T, Th, F  
5/20 – 5/26.....M, T, Th, F, Sat  
5/27 – 9/15.....M, T, Th, F, Sat, Sun  
9/16 – 9/21.....M, T, Th, F

**Fares**  
Round trip.....\$320.00  
One-way.....\$220.00  
Inter-island.....\$125.00

From Grand Marais, Minnesota

**Seaplane**  
30 minutes to Windigo, 45 minutes to Rock Harbor each way, concession-operated Cessna 206 and DeHavilland Beaver.

**Schedule**  
5/14 – 5/19.....M, T, Th, F  
5/20 – 5/26.....M, T, Th, F, Sat  
5/27 – 9/15.....M, T, Th, F, Sat, Sun  
9/16 – 9/21.....M, T, Th, F

**Fares**  
Grand Marais to Windigo  
•Round trip.....\$290.00  
•One-way.....\$200.00  
Grand Marais to Rock Harbor  
•Round trip.....\$380.00  
•One-way.....\$260.00  
Arrive Rock Harbor, Depart Windigo.....\$335.00  
Arrive Windigo, Depart Rock Harbor.....\$335.00  
Inter-island.....\$125.00

**Reservations**  
Payment required for confirmed reservation.

**Cancellations**  
Full refund of fare, provided cancellation received at least two full weeks prior to departure.

**Miscellaneous**  
Parking fee • Planes accommodate up to six passengers • Baggage is limited to 50 lbs. per person • Planes cannot carry stove fuel; selected fuels are available upon park arrival

**Contact Information**  
Isle Royale Seaplanes  
**Phone:** (906) 483-4991  
**E-mail:** [info@isleroyalseaplanes.com](mailto:info@isleroyalseaplanes.com)  
**Website:** [www.isleroyalseaplanes.com](http://www.isleroyalseaplanes.com)

Fees & Passes	Rates & Explanation
Daily Entrance Fee	\$7 per person per day to enter or remain in the park. Children 15 and younger are exempt.
Isle Royale Season Pass	\$60, valid from April 16 through October 31 of the year indicated. Pass covers fees for the pass holder and up to three adults traveling with the pass holder (four total).
Federal Lands Passes	Access, Annual, Military, and Senior Passes are honored. Pass covers fees for the pass holder and up to three adults traveling with the pass holder (four total).
4th Grade Pass	Through August 31, 2018, entrance fees will be waived for US students in 4th grade (and up to three accompanying adults). Student must present paper voucher or 4th grade pass upon arrival. Go to <a href="http://www.everykidinapark.gov">www.everykidinapark.gov</a> to receive a voucher.

Your Fees at Work

Fees you pay while visiting remain in the park and are primarily used for trail and dock maintenance.

- Projects Completed in 2017**
- Rehabilitated Greenstone Ridge Trail from Island Mine to South Lake Desor.
  - Refurbished Windigo Visitor Center floors and exterior.
  - Removed hazard trees from the Rock Harbor area.

Pay Entrance Fees in Advance

*Isle Royale Queen IV, Voyageur II, Sea Hunter III, and Isle Royale Seaplanes* no longer collect park fees. Visitors using these services should pay fees or purchase passes in advance to avoid congestion and long waits upon arrival.

Pay Online: [www.pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) (search Isle Royale)

Purchase Daily Entrance Fees or the Isle Royale Season Pass online. Find the Isle Royale NP Individual Daily Pass or Isle Royale NP Season Pass Fees. Select "Continue to Form."

If your party's daily entrance fee charge will be greater than \$60, consider purchasing an Isle Royale Season Pass.

You will receive an email receipt. Bring your receipt as proof of payment to show upon arrival in the park.

Pay in Person

You may purchase fees and federal lands passes when you arrive at Houghton, Rock Harbor, or Windigo Visitor Centers.

Fee Questions

Contact: 906-482-0984 or [isro\\_parkinfo@nps.gov](mailto:isro_parkinfo@nps.gov)





# Contacts

## Isle Royale National Park

[www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)

800 E. Lakeshore Drive

Houghton, MI 49931-1869

**Phone:** 906-482-0984

**Fax:** 906-482-8753

### Facebook

search "Isle Royale National Park"

### Instagram

[www.instagram.com/isleroyalnps/](http://www.instagram.com/isleroyalnps/)

### E-mail for General Information

ISRO\_ParkInfo@nps.gov

### Emergency use only

(440) 546-5945 or

Toll free 1-800-433-1986

## Isle Royale and Keweenaw Parks Association

[www.irkpa.org](http://www.irkpa.org)

800 East Lakeshore Drive

Houghton, MI 49931-1869

**Phone:** 800-678-6925; 906-482-3627

**E-mail:** [irkpa@irkpa.org](mailto:irkpa@irkpa.org)

## Rock Harbor Lodge

[www.RockHarborLodge.com](http://www.RockHarborLodge.com)

**Summer Phone:** 906-337-4993

**Winter Phone:** 866-644-2003

**E-mail:** [info@isleroyaleresort.com](mailto:info@isleroyaleresort.com)

## Weather Forecast for Isle Royale

[www.weather.gov/mqt](http://www.weather.gov/mqt)

## Weather Radio Forecasts

- 162.400 MHz from  
Houghton, Michigan.
- 162.475 MHz from  
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada.

## Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau

[www.keweenaw.info](http://www.keweenaw.info)

**Phone:** 888-766-0325

## Minnesota's Grand Marais Visitor Information Center

[www.visitcookcounty.com](http://www.visitcookcounty.com)

**Phone:** 888-922-5000

## Michigan DNR

Fishing License Purchase

[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

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- Images from the Isle Royale National Park collection and contributing authors.

**Printed by Quad/Graphics on recycled paper using agri-based inks.**

Please recycle.



Make your purchase today!

Visit [www.irkpa.org](http://www.irkpa.org)

Call 906-482-3627 or 800-678-6925

*IRKPA members receive a 10% discount on purchases!*

## BOOKS, MAPS & MORE

Your purchases help support Isle Royale National Park!

### **New** [How the Rock Connects Us: A Geoheritage Guide to Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula and Isle Royale.....\\$9.95](#)

Michigan Tech geologists Bill Rose and Erika Vye, with Isle Royale Ranger Valerie Martin, provide a comprehensive overview of the underlying geologic features that link both of our national parks and Lake Superior. Also available as a premium for a \$50 or more membership or donation.

### **New** [Isle Royale National Park Topographic Map.....\\$11.95](#)

This 12" by 36" waterproof map shows the entirety of Isle Royale on one side, making it perfect for either backpacking (folded version) or hanging on your wall (rolled version). The back side includes a close-up map of Rock Harbor and Windigo, as well as information on campgrounds and trail mileage.

### [Trails Illustrated Map.....\\$11.95](#)

Topographic map printed on waterproof, tear-resistant material with half of the island on each side. Measures 4" x 9" folded and 38" x 25" open. Scale = 1:50,000. Updated 2006.

### [Isle Royale National Park: Foot Trails and Water Routes.....\\$16.95](#)

The park's authoritative trip-planning guide. Complete descriptions for trails and waterways, including mileage, difficulty, and amenities. More than 60 photos and 35 detailed maps. 4th edition.

### [Island Life: An Isle Royale Nature Guide.....\\$15.95](#)

A guide to the common flora and fauna of Isle Royale in one easy-to-use volume. Over 350 species of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, trees, and flowers, each illustrated with a color photograph or drawing.

### [Superior Wilderness.....\\$16.95](#)

A natural history of Isle Royale for the layperson, emphasizing ecology of the island and the relationship between its plants, animals, and physical environment. Color photographs, engaging text, maps, charts, and illustrations.

### [The Wolves of Isle Royale: A Broken Balance.....\\$29.95](#)

This classic first-hand account of the Isle Royale predator/prey study is illustrated with more than 100 photographs. The book reveals the true nature of the little-understood wolf and some of the secrets of this one-of-a-kind research project, now in its 60th year.

### [Retro Isle Royale Print.....\\$42.95](#)

Anderson Design Group's hand-illustrated print, part of their national park series, has a WPA-era feel. Includes iconic images of *Ranger III*, moose, and Rock Harbor Lighthouse. Printed on 18" x 24" heavy gallery-grade paper. Mailing tube included.

### [Isle Royale Patch.....\\$4.95](#)

This quality embroidered patch celebrates two icons of Isle Royale National Park, the Rock Harbor Lighthouse and the National Park Service ferry *Ranger III* (3 x 3 in.).

### [Isle Royale National Park Fleece Hats.....\\$19.95](#)

High-quality fleece hats with "Isle Royale National Park" in retro 1945 National Park Service font. One size: blue, red, gray, taupe, or green heather. Also as a premium for \$100 or more membership or donation.

### [H is for Hook: A Fishing Alphabet.....\\$17.95](#)

Judy Young tackles topics such as lures, where to fish, and what equipment you will need, along with the basics of cleaning, filleting, and cooking your final catch. She also includes suggestions on how to capture your fishing memories through journals and photography.

### [One North Star.....\\$16.95](#)

Through bog and marsh, across prairie and into woods, children learn what lives where by counting creatures in exquisite woodcut and watercolor illustrations by Beckie Prange and Betsy Bowen.

### [Folkmanis® Finger Puppets.....\\$5.95 to \\$9.95](#)

Children engage in imaginative play with these award-winning, well-made finger puppets, which celebrate the natural world with animals from our national parks.

## Join the Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association

The Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association (IRKPA), in partnership with the National Park Service, promotes the public's understanding and appreciation of Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park through education and research. Every year IRKPA contributes approximately \$25,000 in cash and in-kind aid to Isle Royale National Park.

### You Can Help....

You can support the work of the IRKPA and our partner parks by becoming a member. Your tax-deductible contribution will help share the stories of Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park with people of all ages, around the world. Call 800-678-6925, or join online at <https://irkpa.org/support/join>

#### Member Benefits

- A 10% discount on all purchases from IRKPA outlets and many other national park visitor centers
- Three issues of Wolf's Eye newsletter
- Copies of park newspapers, *The Greenstone* and the *Keweenaw Guide*
- Invitations to programs, trips, and events
- Monthly email park news updates

#### Membership Levels

- Life.....\$1,200 (payable in four installments)
- Patron.....\$250
- Sustaining.....\$100
- Supporting.....\$50
- Household.....\$35
- Individual.....\$25

**Become a member today!**

